
SENATE BILL 6227

State of Washington

60th Legislature

2008 Regular Session

By Senator Jacobsen

Read first time 01/14/08. Referred to Committee on Natural Resources, Ocean & Recreation.

1 AN ACT Relating to strengthening Washington's outer coast marine
2 resources committees; amending RCW 36.125.020; adding a new section to
3 chapter 36.125 RCW; creating a new section; and making an
4 appropriation.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that Washington's
7 coastal and ocean resources provide vital economic, recreation,
8 transportation, and cultural benefits to the state. The legislature
9 seeks to continue recent state and local efforts to preserve and
10 enhance the state's coastal and ocean resources, such as the work of
11 the Washington ocean policy work group and the state's existing marine
12 resources committees.

13 The legislature finds that outer coast marine resources committees,
14 authorized by the legislature in 2007, provide a mechanism for
15 communities to discuss and develop solutions for the issues facing
16 coastal resources and communities. However, additional state
17 investments are necessary to allow outer coast marine resources
18 committees to fulfill their full potential. Therefore, the legislature

1 intends by this act to provide additional support and resources for
2 outer coast marine resources committees in order to benefit the coastal
3 and ocean resources of Washington.

4 **Sec. 2.** RCW 36.125.020 and 2007 c 344 s 3 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 (1) A marine resources committee, as described in RCW 36.125.010,
7 may be created by the legislative authority of any county bordering the
8 marine waters of the outer coast or Puget Sound, in cooperation with
9 all appropriate cities and special districts within their boundaries.
10 Adjacent county legislative authorities shall coordinate their efforts
11 whenever there is a mutual interest in creating a marine resources
12 committee.

13 (2) A county may delegate the management and oversight of a marine
14 resources committee created by the county under RCW 36.125.010 to a
15 city, or cities, within its jurisdiction, if the city or cities are
16 located on the marine waters of the outer coast or southern Puget Sound
17 and are willing to accept the delegation.

18 (3)(a) Participating county legislative authorities must select
19 members of the marine resources committee, ensuring balanced
20 representation from: Local government; scientific experts; affected
21 economic interests; affected recreational interests; and environmental
22 and conservation interests. Additionally, participating county
23 legislative authorities must invite tribal representatives to
24 participate in the marine resources committee.

25 (b) In lieu of creating a new entity, participating county
26 legislative authorities may designate a lead entity created under RCW
27 77.85.050 to also serve as a marine resources committee. County
28 legislative authorities may only make this designation where the lead
29 entity consents in writing to also serve as a marine resources
30 committee.

31 (c) An initiating county may delegate its appointment authority to
32 a city or cities that have received from the county the delegated
33 responsibilities of managing and overseeing the marine resources
34 committee.

35 (4) County residents may petition the county legislative authority
36 to create a marine resources committee. Upon receipt of a petition,

1 the county legislative authority must respond in writing within sixty
2 days as to whether they will authorize the creation of a marine
3 resources committee as well as the reasons for their decision.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 36.125 RCW
5 to read as follows:

6 (1) The outer coast marine resources committee program is created
7 to provide support for the development, administration, and
8 coordination of outer coast marine resources committees and their
9 projects.

10 (2) The director of fish and wildlife is the administrator of the
11 outer coast marine resources committee program. As the administrator
12 of the program, the director of fish and wildlife shall:

13 (a) Provide each outer coast marine resources committee with a
14 coordinator to support the administration and work of the committee;
15 and

16 (b) Distribute grants to outer coast marine resources committees
17 for projects that benefit Washington's coastal marine resources. The
18 director of fish and wildlife shall develop procedures and criteria for
19 allocating funds for projects, which may include annual allocation of
20 funding to each committee.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The sum of five hundred thousand dollars, or
22 as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for the fiscal
23 year ending June 30, 2009, from the general fund to the department of
24 fish and wildlife for the purposes of this act.

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